■ Metro
Dengue outbreak in QC barangay leaves 8 dead in 6 weeks

■ News / A2
SC ousts Antonio Go board from Equitable-PCIB

■ World / A10
Nike unfazed by $3.8-billion Adidas, Reebok deal

■ Across / A17
Ocean Adventure stays open despite DENR closure order

■ Entertainment
Great wait over for "The Great Raid" featuring "impressive" Cesar Montano



## Pinedas 'very generous,' says Pampanga bishop

By Christian V. Esguerra

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

## GMA, foes snub each other at 'Celebration of Truth'

By Christine O. Avendaño



Friday, August 5, 2005 • 28 pages | vol. 20 | no. 239
www.inq7.net



# 'Jueteng' witness says sorry to GMA

## Between sobs, insists he is not recanting

OCCASIONALLY shouting into a microphone, a "jueteng" bagman-turned-whistle-blower yesterday tearfully accused the opposition of forcing him to link members of President Macapagal-Arroyo's family to the multibillion-peso illegal numbers racket.



NO EYE CONTACT

## Bishop Cruz unfazed; Ping not surprised

## Dy to testify on La Vista payoff, says Pimentel

## Where's Garci? Opposition offers P1M

By Philip C. Tubeza and Michael Lim Ubac



HEAVYWEIGHTS

## First, JDV says impeach bid dead, now it's alive and well

By Michael Lim Ubac

## Zuce is opposition 'star witness'

By Blanche S. Rivera, Philip C. Tubeza and Jennifer Aning

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

# SC ousts Go board from Equitable

By Doris C. Dumlao and Armand N. Nocum

THE SUPREME Court yesterday issued a temporary restraining order barring the group of Antonio Go from assuming the board of Equitable PCI Bank, and effectively allowed the block of the state-owned pension funds to take over control of the bank.




## All Magdalo leaders were arraigned, rules court-martial

# METRO

# 8 kids die of dengue in QC barangay

By DJ Yap

[illegible]

## Dasma 'maids' birthday gift for boss

By Tarra V. Quismundo

[illegible]

## City Hall begins cutting trees at Manila's Arroceros Park



By Tina G. Santos

[illegible]

### METROBRIEFS

#### Six arrested for killing of Chinoy

[illegible]

#### Help a text away for abuse victims



[illegible]

## 1st natural gas-fed bus to roll soon

By Abigail L. Ho

[illegible]

INQUIRER Platinum Code

CONGRATULATIONS!

SILVERIUS DEGHO of LA UNION

WINS P20,000 IN CASH!

INQUIRER



# First, JDV says impeach bid dead …



### Not saying who's who

### 'Very fair'

### Hands-off

### Mindless cattle

### Heated debate

# GMA, foes snub each other at 'Celebration of Truth'



### Ocampo's prayer

Think You know everything there is to know about Your Customers?
NOT After You Attend This... ...You Won't!
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HOTEL INTERCONTINENTAL, MAKATI CITY
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Direct Marketing Association Philippines
AUGUST 18 & 19, 2005
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## Corrections

## The Daily Gospel

# Gov't can't cancel rebs' immunity, says NDF

# Saguisag courts contempt anew, twits SC this time

## Text raffle 'winner' hoaxed




LOVE YOURSELF

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HSBC

The world's local bank

# 'Jueteng' witness says sorry to GMA



# Bishop Cruz unfazed; Ping not surprised



# Pinedas 'very generous' parishioners, says Pampanga bishop

# Foreign trade groups urge gov't to clarify holiday policy

## Added costs

## Guessing game

# GMA grants more subsidy to NorthRail squatters

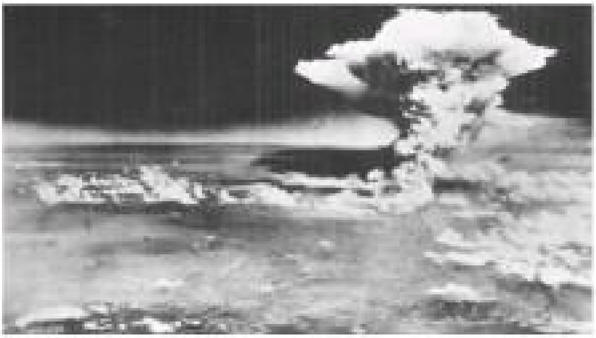



# The WORLD

# Insurgents kill 14 US Marines in Iraq

BAGHDAD—Fourteen Marines were killed in one of the deadliest attacks on US forces since the invasion of Iraq, and an American freelance reporter was gunned down in the relatively calm south.

## Deaths from pig-borne disease worry experts



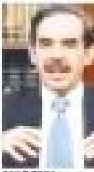
NEVER AGAIN




## Nokor nuke talks stall

## *Replication of dog reignites debate over human cloning*

# Troops oust leader of oil-rich Mauritania



OULD TAYA


We know from experience that anything Shangri-La is excellent. That's why for our family residence in the Philippines, we chose The Shang Grand Tower.



The Shang Grand Tower
Luxury Residential Condominium






Philippine Airlines
It's about experience
www.philippineairlines.com

# Police charge 1st suspect in failed London bombings

## Nike unfazed by $3.8-billion Adidas-Reebok deal




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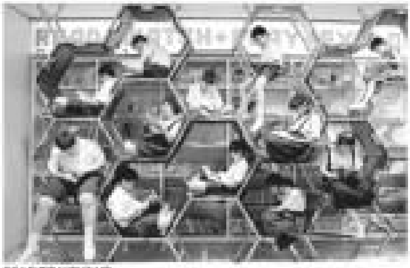
Nestea

Jollibee

Green Cross

Pump

JOLLY

## Fourth space walk may be needed to ensure safe return of Discovery

## New use for Celebrex okayed

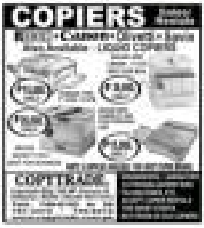
# Germany reels from worst case of infanticide

# Riots in Sudan kill 130



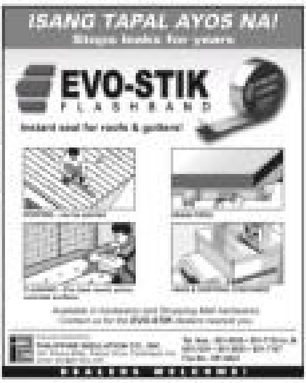

ATTENTION !!!

Amoxicillin 500mg Capsule @ 115.50
Mefenamic Acid 500mg Capsule @ 83.80









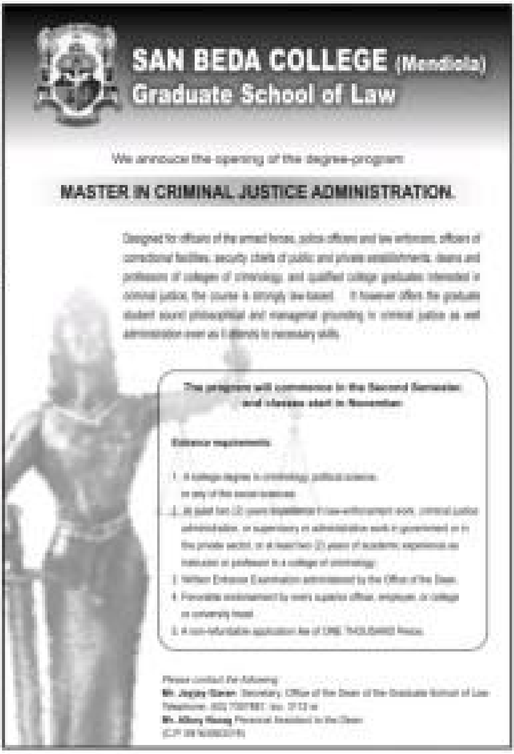


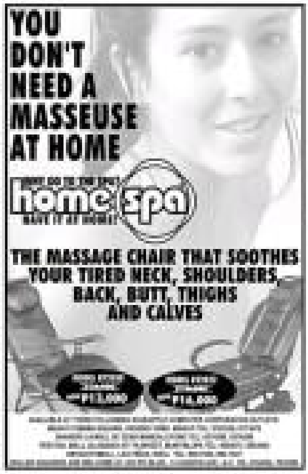










# SPORTS



# Eagles halt Warriors; Maroons rip Falcons

THE ATENEO Eagles got the tough test they expected and showed enough composure down the stretch to ambush the streaking University of the East Warriors, 65-63, yesterday in the UAAP basketball tournament at the Araneta Coliseum.

# Pagdanganan, POC at odds over SEA Games cage venue

## What's Inside















# Iloilo Warriors stun Tribu Sugbu cagers at home

# Inspired Lions eye Stags as 2nd victims

**NEW San Beda coach Koy Banal could not have asked for a better start.**



# PNP to hold first Subic marathon

## Pagdanganan, POC . . .

## Eagles halt Warriors; Maroons . . .

## RP-PBA cager crushed, needs our help

BARE EYE



Recah Trinidad

## SPORTSWATCH

### Brod of ex-PBA commish passes away

### Mad Range Shootout all set at Megamall

### Pasay cockfest kicks off today

### Makati Coliseum 4-cocker lures 30 entries

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

# OPINION




## Slowing RATE

EDITORIAL

AFTER PROVING itself effective for three months, the Run After Tax Evaders (RATE) program of the government appears on its way to a shelf or, maybe, a graveyard.

## IPP with P14,000 to build P800-M power plant?

AS I SEE IT

*Neal H. Cruz*

## Analog thinking in a digital world

PASSION FOR REASON

*Raul C. Pangalangan*

# Politics, prayer and fasting

**Commentary**

*Denis Murphy*

# ET takes the LRT

**Pinoy Kasi**



*Michael L. Tan*

# No more doctors?

**At Large**



*Rina Jimenez-David*

# The coming of the mandarins

**Looking Back**



*Ambeth R. Ocampo*

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

# Relics of unenlightened past

LETTERS

## DAWN's partnership with gov't agencies




## Right time to do what is right

## Impeaching GMA

Voices on INQ7.NET

# Marine park to stay open, say owners




[illegible]

THE POPULAR Ocean Adventure marine park in Subic Bay would remain open and operational despite a cease-and-desist order from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

[illegible]

# Deputy cop chief draws jail term for boss' slay

[illegible]

# Police urge gov't to identify owners of marijuana fields in Cordillera

### No identities

### Ideal location

# Mindoro legislator faces suspension over graft case



VALENCIA

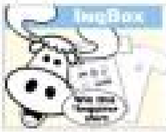
## ROUNDUP

### 'Drug Queen' busted

### 1 dead in road mishap

### Town hall power supply cut

### UP Kalilayan

InqBox

Question of the Week

Do you support the moves to impeach the President?



# Settlers accuse NHA head of conflict of interest



FRESH

# 3 Cebu City BIR execs held for extortion

# Davao to computerize to fight graft

# *Kin of comfort women find employment in abusers' homeland*




COMFORT WOMEN

"The paradox has multiplied twice over in Quilamang's home village of Mapanique."



## Text leads to arrest of fishing violators

# Study says veggie trade, mining top job givers

INQUIRER Platinum Code



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



# Dy to testify on La Vista payoff, says Pimentel



FAUSTINO DY JR.

### Brothers

### Palace unafraid

### Trouble for GMA

### Secret dinner

### Lilia leads convoy

### Handwritten statement

### Corroborated

# Where's Garci? Opposition offers P1M

### Air, sea and land

### The sooner, the better

### No need for him

### Hold departure order

### Help from people

### No extradition treaties

# Zuce is opposition 'star witness'

### Strong documents

### Sorry for Erap

### Sure of impeachment

### Timeline

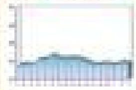
### Other possible witnesses

### Lie detector test

### 'Manna from heaven'

# Business

## Currencies



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

## Stock Market

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



### Shares close 0.51% lower

SHARE prices yesterday closed 0.51 percent lower as the market consolidated recent gains and investors took profits, dealers said.

They said support for Philippine Long Distance Telephone after early losses when the company reported record second quarter earnings limited the fall.

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index fell ... points to 1,878 ... after trading between ... The broader all-shares index fell ... points to 1,...

Volume was ... million shares worth P... billion. Losers beat gainers ... with ... stocks unchanged. AFP

# P15-B 'garden city' to rise in QC

## Araneta Center transformation

By Elizabeth L. Banzon

PROPERTY developer Megaworld Corp. and Araneta Center Inc. have signed an agreement to transform the Araneta Center into a "scenic garden city" through a P15-billion mass transport-based residential project.

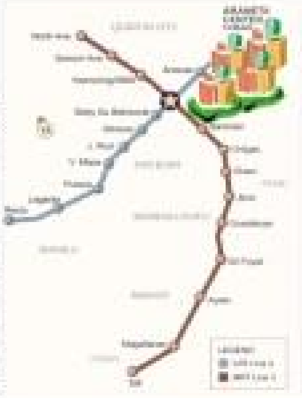
The deal was signed Wednesday night by Megaworld chairman and president Andrew Tan and Araneta Center chair and CEO Jorge Araneta.

Under the project, Megaworld will put up 17 buildings comprising 5,000 condominium units on a five-hectare property owned by the Araneta Group within the 35-hectare Araneta Center complex.

Most of the residential towers in the Megaworld Araneta project will be finished in 7 years, with the rest expected to be completed in 10 years.

A focal point of the project is a three-story high garden walkway that will interconnect all the residential buildings and bring unit owners within walking distance of the MRT 3 and LRT 2 systems, which intersect on Edsa and Aurora

ARANETA/B2




## PLDT first half profit up 35%

By Clarissa S. Batino

PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. yesterday said its first semester net income jumped 35 percent to P18.8 billion from P13.9 billion last year, mainly due to the strong earnings performance of its mobile business and its continuing effort to cut costs.

Without extraordinary gains from derivatives and foreign exchange booked mostly during the first quarter, PLDT's six-month profit stood at P15 billion or 9 percent more than year-ago level.

PLDT's wireless units Smart Communications Inc. and Pilipino Telephone Corp. accounted for P12.3 billion and P4.8 billion, respectively, of the six-month net income.

Piltel's profit included about P800 million in recovery gains, arising from the ... of the Japanese yen. A good portion of the company's debts were yen-denominated.

Second quarter profit reached P7.4 billion, higher than the P6.8 billion registered earlier and above market consensus of P6.6 billion to P6.75 billion.

"Despite the unsettling issues, PLDT continues to show its resilience. We certainly don't expect the second half of the year to be any easier but we remain focused on the tasks at hand—maintaining growth in profitability," said PLDT chair

PLDT/B2

### WHAT'S INSIDE







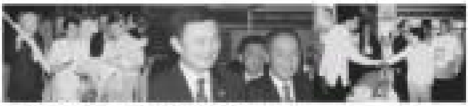

# SC order voiding safeguard duty on cement hit

# OFWs and RP agriculture

COMMENTARY


ASIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

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ASIAN FORUM
on Corporate Social Responsibility



Exploring CSR Strategies for Business:



METRO PACIFIC

05 August 2005

Dear Stockholders:

Please be advised that the Annual Meeting of the stockholders of METRO PACIFIC CORPORATION will be held on Friday, the 12th day of August 2005, 10:00 a.m. at the Turf Room of the Manila Polo Club, No. 17 McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City, for the following purposes:

1. To consider and approve the President's Report and the Annual Report for the year 2004.
2. To ratify all acts of the Board of Directors and Management for the year 2004.
3. To consider and adopt the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2004 contained in the Annual Report.
4. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 18th of June 2004.
5. To elect the Directors of the Company for the ensuing year.
6. To appoint external Auditors for the ensuing year.
7. To approve the Executive Stock Option Plan.
8. To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting and at any adjournment thereof.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on the 31st day of March 2005, as the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Stockholders' Meeting.

Very truly yours,

ANTONIO A. PICAZO
Corporate Secretary

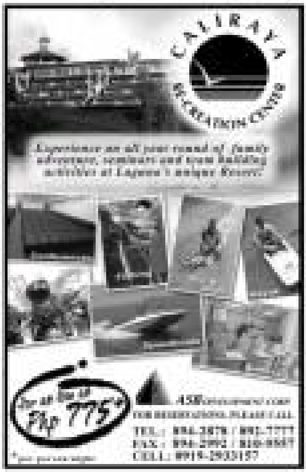
Makati City

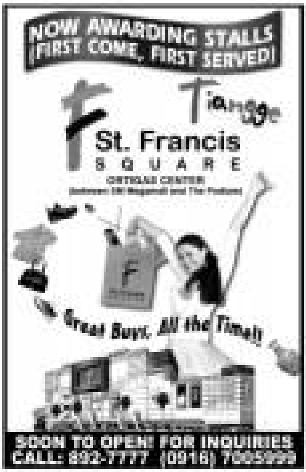
# Lawyers in the dock

## Cocktales

Victor C. Agustin

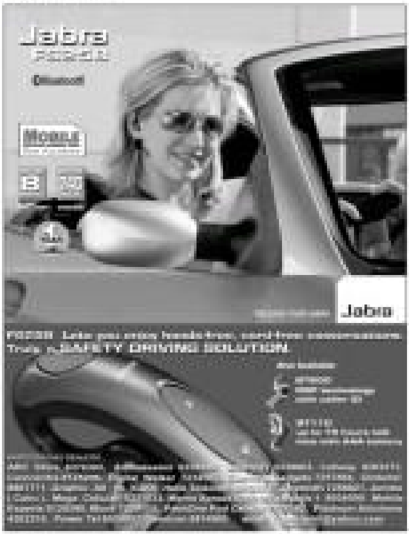
### Money-go-round




INSULAR LIFE

| Investment Funds of Wealth Builder | August 1, 2005 | July 25, 2005 |
|---|---|---|
| Fixed Income Fund | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Balanced Fund | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Equity Fund | [illegible] | [illegible] |



# BUSINESS

# Farmers seek to stop PNB sale

By Doris C. Dumlao

A GROUP of sugar producers and farmers from Bacolod have asked Finance Secretary Margarito Teves to stop the Aug. 12 auction of the controlling stake in Philippine National Bank.

The sugar farmers fear that if the bidding were to push through, about P15 to P20 billion in potential windfall from old sugar crop loans would be lost.

The group "Planters Against the Plunder of the Sugar Industry (Papsi)" urged Teves to look into the deals that would allow the PNB to buy back by 2013 over 4,000 collateralized loans to sugar farmers.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas in 1991 turned over the loans under a dacion en pago (payment in kind) arrangement with then PNB-Republic Bank (PNB-RB).

Daniel Hagad, the group's legal counsel, yesterday explained that the sugar loan receivables were valued by the BSP at a collateral price—representing discounted value plus accrued interests—of only P3 billion. But the farm lands backing the loans, which could be as many as 74,000 hectares, would be worth much more.

Whether partially collected or foreclosed, Hagad estimated that the understated sugar loan portfolio could be worth anywhere between P15 to P20 billion.

This meant that whoever would end up with the controlling stake in PNB—Hagad said it would likely be taipan Lucio Tan—would get the "scandalous" benefits from these loans at the expense of the battered sugar industry.

PNB is thus significantly undervalued at the price the government is currently willing to sell, he said, since the bank cannot as yet book the sugar loans as assets, recognizing them as contingent accounts.

## *With Charter change, RP may expect $5B in direct foreign investments*

By Michelle V. Remo

THE PHILIPPINES can attract as much as $5 billion in additional foreign direct investments every year and may even compete head on with its neighboring countries if it will amend the Constitution.

Bernardo Villegas, economist from the University of Asia and the Pacific (UA&P), said the restrictive economic provisions of the Constitution are a major reason why the country has been lagging behind its foreign counterparts in the area of attracting investments.

"We can easily achieve $3 billion to $5 billion worth of investments (every year), the average in the region, if we would open up," he said during a briefing yesterday.

He suggested removing the constitutional provision disallowing foreigners from investing in education, among other industries.

Villegas said that the policy is "very backward," given that other Southeast Asian nations are inviting Western educational institutions, such as Harvard, to invest in their countries and develop their educational systems.

The economist said several industries have the potential of growing exponentially if the Philippines would liberalize. He is in favor of allowing 100-percent foreign ownership of businesses and land in the Philippines.

"For many years we have been obsessed with protecting white elephants in the name of false nationalism," Villegas said.

He added the Philippines should take advantage of renewed calls for Charter change, which have mounted amid the lingering political problem, by pushing not only for amendments of political provisions, but also of economic ones.

Villegas enumerated a number of industries that have the potential of booming given a welcoming business environment. These include tourism, food and agribusiness, logistics, retirement villages, mining, education, and wellness, health and beauty services, among others.

# BSP wants to sweeten bank mergers

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas wants to keep the local banking arena lucrative for mergers and acquisitions, and officials are now toying with the idea of rewarding "good" banks the license to open new branches.

At present, banks are prohibited from opening up fresh branches.

BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. on Wednesday night told reporters at the opening of Citibank Savings' first branch on Ayala Avenue that he wanted to see additional consolidations, following the Bank of the Philippine Islands's P6.1-billion buyout of Prudential Bank.

Tetangco wants fewer but stronger banks. He also wants to consider partially lifting the moratorium on new branch licenses imposed by his predecessor Rafael Buenaventura.

The moratorium has so far been effective in encouraging banks to grow further by speeding up their expansion through acquisitions.

"We'll have to balance that (benefits of moratorium on branching) with the consideration that well-run and well-capitalized banks should be given some flexibility to improve their operations and offer more services to their clients," Tetangco said. "But there's no decision yet."

Tetangco preferred that the banking consolidation process occur through voluntary market decisions rather than through the far more painful and costly involuntary process.

He said banks need not wait for a crisis to act.

"Mergers will allow banks to either maintain or improve their position in the market," he said.

Analysts have predicted a new round of mergers in the banking industry. *Doris C. Dumlao*

# RP cut use of ODA funds in '04

## Cocktales

Heard through the grapevine

MANAGEMENT OF RENTAL PROPERTIES

URBAN INSTITUTE OF REAL ESTATE

## PLDT first half . . .

## ₱15-B 'garden . . .



LIFESTYLE

SKIRTS ahoy! /C3

# Hair lessons from—of all places—Guangzhou

LIFE-STYLED

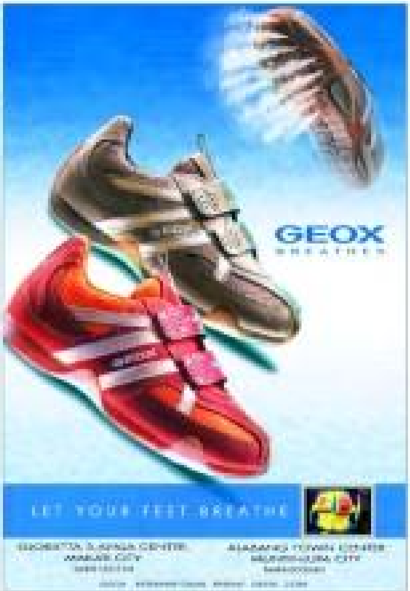


*Thelma Sioson San Juan*



## Celebrity

## Trust



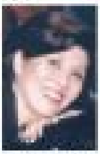




# Surprise birthday party; much ado about 'private bed'



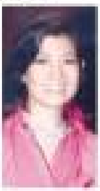
















WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH



*Maurice Arcache*





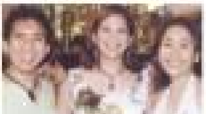














WINDOW SHOPPING

# Skirting the issue



YELLOW cotton with white lace inserts
SM Department Store ([illegible])



KHAKI semi-poof skirt with gray and copper inserts
Greyhound ([illegible])



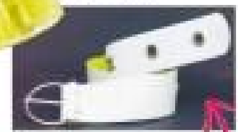
WHITE [illegible] eyelet embroidered tiered skirt
SM Department Store ([illegible])



BRAIDED beige wide belt
Dorothy Perkins ([illegible])

By [illegible]
Contributors
Photos by [illegible]

SKIRTS are in full bloom in stores these days. Long or short, full or tight, there is bound to be one that suits your mood and style. So go on, unleash your girly side—full skirt ahead! There's no better time to toss one on than now. Strap a wide belt over it. Finish the look with a pair of cute flats. Enjoy being a girl!



[illegible] white wide belt with 2 huge eyelets
SM Department Store ([illegible])



WHIMSICAL flats in brown pleated satin with dragonfly pendant
[illegible] ([illegible])

## Fine fashion for over 30 years

VIDA Doria is a stalwart in both haute couture and RTW. Her fashion business has thrived for over 30 years.

The former Miss Philippines designs all the [illegible] clothes that are smart and classic. Newly in demand are the corporate wear, casual and formal apparel, wedding and ballroom gowns. The Vida Doria [illegible] all-types-of-weather travel attire. Casuals are knitted blouses, spandex tops, stretch pants (great for golf garb) and loose tops.

The knitted fabrics are exclusively woven and dyed to the colors and textures of Vida Doria's taste. She goes for natural fabrics. Other materials are linen, cotton, brocade, charmeuse and chiffon. Majority of the fabrics are imported from Japan, Europe and Hong Kong.

Her designs come in [illegible] colors: turquoise, burgundy, lime green, fuchsia, Mediterranean blue, [illegible] pink and coral blue. Accessories include necklaces, bracelets, earrings and brooches made of precious stones, pearls, Swarovski crystals and gold fillers.

The Vida Doria boutiques are located at [illegible] SM City North [illegible] since 1985, [illegible] SM Megamall, Ortigas ([illegible]) and Space [illegible] Glorietta Arcade, Makati ([illegible]). Her made-to-order and gown showroom is located at [illegible] St., [illegible] Village, QC ([illegible]).



CASUAL wear

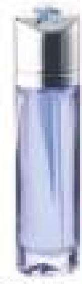


FORMAL wear



CORPORATE wear

# Intoxicatingly delicious scents





Makeover 911





